Guide to the NU7 Aztec File

[This file consists of sixteen sources, including one translation. The basic source is Fray Bernadino de Sahagun's Florentine Codex: General History of the Things of New Spain, which is being translated from the Aztec text by Arthur J. O. Anderson and Charles E. Dibble. The translation has not yet been completed and several volumes will be added to the Aztec file in the future. The book by Vaillant, an archeologist, gives the general background to Aztec culture, with relevant archeological data. Bernal Diaz' account gives an idea of Aztec culture as it appeared to a conquistador in 1519-1521. The items by Radin, Monzon, Deevey and Phillips cover aspects of culture only briefly noted in the other sources. Bandelier's works are chiefly valuable for the abstracts and quotations from other works which he uses to bolster his own theories about Aztec culture. In general, all aspects of Aztec culture are covered in this file with no really weak spots appearing anywhere. This file is strong on material pertaining to religion, socio-political organization, warfare, trade and diet. Information pertaining to the calpulli, a kinship-administrative unit, has been filed in category 618. Monzon's monograph (9: Monzon) gives an analysis of the most recent anthropological thought concerning the origin, meaning and significance of the calpulli in relation to Aztec social organization. Most of the information on propitiation, which forms a major portion of Aztec ceremonies, will be found in category 796.]

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